permit a presumption by the Court as to abetment of suicide and dowry death of a married woman.

(iii) All cases of deaths of married woman within 10 years of their marriage are investigated by senior officers under the supervision of the Deputy Commissioner of Police.

(iv) A Special Cell Crime against Women, headed by a lady Deputy Commissioner of Police with other women police officers, has been set up at the Police Headquarter. Women's Cells have also been set up in all the districts of Delhi Police with women police officers.

(v) A new section in the I.P.C., namely, 304-B has been added to the effect that where the death of a woman occurs otherwise than under normal circumstances within 7 years of her marriage and there is proof of harassment/cruelty by her husband or his relative, it shall be called 'dowry death' and her husband or his relative shall be deemed to have caused her death.

Credit for Powerlooms

1794. SHRI K. VASUDEVAPANICKER: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether task force on credit for powerlooms has been set up; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) :(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Task Force has been set up by Government Resolution dated 4-5-1987 under the Chairmanship of the Textile Commissioner to *inter alia*, assess the existing flow of credit to the decentralised powerloom sector and to make specific recommendations regarding measures to augment the flow of credit. It is to submit its report within four months from the date of is constitution.

Protection of Cotton growers' interests

1795. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:

SRHI SHANKARRAO NARAYANRAO DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to protect the interests of Cotton growers considering the tremendous use of artificial fibres in the entire country;

(b) whether there is any possibility to adopt Cotton Monopoly Scheme like purchase agency throughout the country on the lines of Maharashtra Government; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and what measures are being taken by the State and Central Government to strengthen the Cotton monopoly Scheme in Maharashtra?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHR S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The facility of fibre-flexibility has not adversely affected cotton consumption and therefore, the interests of growers.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Government have decided to extend the Cotton Monopoly Procurement Scheme of Maharashtra for a period of 3 years with effect from 1-7-86, subject to the condition that the guaranteed prices under the scheme would be the same as the

minimum support prices fixed by the Government of India for different varieties.

Pension to Freedom Fighters

1796. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of applications received from freedom fighters under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980;

(b) what was the last date of receipt of such applications;

(c) what is the number of applications that are still pending;

(d) what is the number of persons who have so far been granted pension under this Scheme; and

(e) what is the target date for the final disposal of all the pension applications received so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) to (e) A total of 1,96,868 applications for grant of pension under Swatantrate Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980 have been received since the inception of the Scheme.

The last date for receipt of applications under the Swatantrate Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980 was 31-3-82. However, for some special categories like caning cases, Arya Samaj Satyagrahis etc., a later date was prescribed for each category separately.

Till 30th June, 1987, pension has been sanctioned in 23,374 cases and 4004 applications were pending for final disposal.

While no time limit can be fixed for final disposal of the pending applications, every effort is being made to expedite disposal of pending cases.

Production and Export of cotton

1797. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:
SHRI SHANKARRAO NARAYANRAO DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total production of cotton during the year 1986-87 in term of cotton bales;

(b) what is tre domestic consumtion;

(c) what is the quota allotted for export; and

(d) how much export quota has been given to Maharashtra under its Cotton Monopoly Sheme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) According to the estimates made by the Cotton Advisory Board, the total production and domestic consumption of cotton during 1986-87 are 95 lakh bales and 95.50 lakh bales respectively.

(c) and (d) A quantity of 4,57,357 bales of long and extra long staple cotton and 50,000 bales of Bengal Deshi cotton has been rtleased for export during 1986-87. Out of this, the Maharashtra State Co-operatice Cotton Growers' Marketing Federation has been allotted a quantity of 1,55,000 bales of long and extra long staple cotton.

Export of Cotton

1798. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:
SHRI SHANKARRAO NARAYANRAO DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present stock of cotton bales in the country;